

Members

Rep. Ron Liggett, Chair
Rep. Jerry Denbo
Rep. Ben GiaQuinta
Rep. Gloria Goeglein
Rep. Thomas Saunders
Rep. David Wolkins
Sen. James Merritt, Vice-Chair
Sen. Rose Antich
Sen. Lindel Hume
Sen. Robert Jackman
Sen. James Lewis
Sen. Marvin Riegsecker



INTERIM STUDY COMMITTEE ON BUREAU OF MOTOR VEHICLE ISSUES

Legislative Services Agency
200 West Washington Street, Suite 301
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204-2789
Tel: (317) 232-9855 Fax: (317) 232-2554

LSA Staff:

Jim Sperlik, Fiscal Analyst for the Committee
Susan Montgomery, Attorney for the Committee
Robert Rudolph, Attorney for the Committee

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MEETING MINUTES¹

Meeting Date: September 29, 2000
Meeting Time: 10:30 A.M.
Meeting Place: State House, 200 W. Washington St.,
House Chambers
Meeting City: Indianapolis, Indiana
Meeting Number: 4

Members Present: Rep. Ron Liggett, Chair; Rep. Thomas Saunders; Rep. David Wolkins; Rep. Jerry Denbo; Sen. James Merritt, Vice-Chair; Sen. Robert Jackman; Sen. Lindel Hume; Sen. James Lewis.

Members Absent: Rep. Gloria Goeglein; Rep. Ben GiaQuinta; Sen. Marvin Riegsecker; Sen. Rose Antich.

The Chair, Representative Liggett, opened the meeting at 10:50 a.m. and announced that the Committee would review, discuss, and vote on various proposed legislation during today's meeting.

1. Proposed Legislation- Discussion and Review

The first bill, Preliminary Draft (PD) 3322, presented by Senator Merritt, addresses contract motor vehicle registration and renewal. Representative Liggett told the Committee that PD 3322 was a work-in-progress and asked Senator Merritt to work with the LSA staff to finalize the proposal. Senator Merritt agreed to work on the proposal with the LSA staff for the next meeting.

The next proposal presented was a Concurrent Resolution which urges the Indiana General Assembly to address the need for funding for new technology for the Bureau of Motor Vehicles (BMV) and the Bureau of Motor Vehicles Commission (BMVC), and to urge improvements in the BMV. There were no questions or comments from Committee members on the Concurrent

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Resolution.

Representative Liggett next presented PD 3154. This proposal establishes a Motor Vehicle Technology Fund. PD 3154 permits the BMV to use money in the newly created fund to acquire computer equipment and software, telephone equipment, electronic queue systems, or other related devices, subject to the approval of the State Budget Agency. The LSA staff distributed a fiscal note for PD 3154. There were no questions or comments on PD 3154.

The Chair next presented PD 3314, which replaced PD 3227. PD 3314 revises the schedule for registration of motor vehicles on a staggered basis throughout the year. Representative Liggett asked that PD 3314 be adopted in place of PD 3227. It was adopted by consent.

Representative Liggett then presented PD 3257. This bill addresses various motor vehicle issues. The LSA staff distributed a fiscal note for PD 3257. The Committee did not have any questions or comments regarding PD 3257.

The next proposal presented by the Chair was PD 3111. The draft establishes a moratorium on license branch closings. PD 3111 provides that a license branch that is in existence on January 1, 2001, may not be closed before January 1, 2006. A fiscal note on PD 3111 was distributed to Committee members. Senator Hume asked if rural counties have more than one license branch. The Chair commented that one of the counties he represents has three license branches. Senator Merritt said that he could not support this proposal because common sense may dictate the closing of licenses branch during this period.

Preliminary Draft 3256 was next presented by Representative Liggett. The Chair said that PD 3256 would be discussed at today's meeting, but will be held until the next meeting for a possible vote because the staff had not completed the fiscal note on this proposal. Representative Liggett recognized Mr. Jeff Byrd, Administrative Services Manager, of PAR Vehicle Transitions Services of North America, to comment on PD 3256. Mr. Byrd told the Committee that this proposal permits an automobile auctioneer, transfer dealer, or a dealer licensed by the state to apply for a certificate of title by a state procedure for a vehicle owned or transferred by the automobile auctioneer, transfer dealer, dealer, or another person. In response to Committee questions, Mr. Byrd said that PAR operates in South Carolina, Arkansas, Montana, and North Dakota.

Representative Liggett presented PD 3226 which allows for cross-county vehicle registration in any year. A fiscal note for PD 3226 was distributed to Committee members. The Chair recognized Mr. Gary Gibson, Commissioner of the BMV, to comment on PD 3226. Mr. Gibson said that cross-county vehicle registration would be easier and cheaper if the county designator was not included on the plate. The county designator are the number which correspond to a particular county. For example, the county designator for Marion County is 49. Mr. Gibson further commented that the county designator appears on approximately 56% of license plates, while 44% are specialty plates.

The Chair next presented PD 3177. This bill provides that the Motor Vehicle Excise is due and payable to the County Treasurer in two installments coinciding with the semiannual installments of property taxes. A fiscal note for PD 3177 was distributed to Committee members. Representative Goeglein, for whom this bill was drafted, was absent from the meeting; therefore, Representative Liggett told the Committee that PD 3177 would be held until the next meeting.

2. Proposed Legislation - Vote

Representative Liggett asked the Committee if they were ready to vote on the proposed

legislation. With affirmation from the Committee, the Chair presented the following PDs for consideration:

- a) PD 3154 was recommended by the Committee for introduction in the 2001 General Assembly by the consent of the seven members present.
- b) PD 3226 was amended with the removal of SECTION 8 by a vote of 4-3. PD 3226 as amended was recommended by the Committee for introduction in the 2001 General Assembly by the consent of the seven members present.
- c) PD 3314 was recommended by the Committee for introduction in the 2001 General Assembly by the consent of the seven members present.
- d) PD 3111 was recommended by the Committee for introduction in the 2001 General Assembly by a vote of 5-2.
- e) PD 3257 was recommended by the Committee for introduction in the 2001 General Assembly by the consent of the seven members present.
- f) The Concurrent Resolution was amended by the removal of SECTION 7 by a vote of 4-3. The Concurrent Resolution, as amended, passed by the consent of the seven members present.

Representative Liggett noted that the next meeting will be the last one for this interim and urged all members to be present because the Committee will be approving the Final Report. He next recognized Mr. Gibson for a comment about the fiscal impact of merging the BMV and the BMVC. He said that the final impact is yet to be determined and that the BMV will be working with the Budget Agency and LSA to finalize the fiscal impact.

3. Bureau of Motor Vehicles Strategic Plan

Because of the length of the meeting, the Chair announced that this topic will be heard at the next meeting. Representative Liggett said he would like to have the next meeting on October 20, 2000, and asked the staff to poll the Committee members as to their availability. With no further business, Representative Liggett adjourned the meeting at 12:30 p.m.